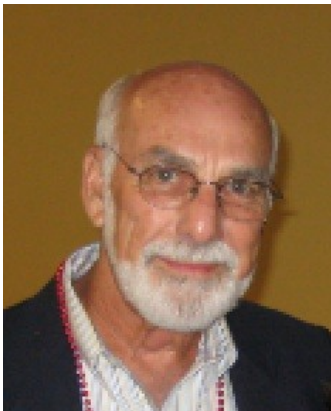




Tipton County Master Gardener's **Garden Gazette**

From our President



Thanks to Linda Orton, Shelby County Master Gardener, who presented our May program on many varieties of "Clematis." Her presentation was very informative and enjoyable. I appreciate the support of our members, we had a good attendance.

Carolyn Cooper and her volunteers set up and maintained an excellent selection of information for prospective master gardeners at the Anthony's Herb Festival. Thank you Carolyn for organizing and taking responsibility of this.

On Saturday at the Herb Festival, it was decided to meet in a backyard for the June meeting. Change of date for June meeting will be, Saturday, June 4, 5:00 p.m. and plan to eat at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Vernon Pairmore.

More information and directions will be sent in another email. Hope this date is satisfactory with everyone, I look forward to having all of you.

Vernon Pairmore
President

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**The Garden is a love song, a duet between a human being
and Mother Nature. *Jeff Cox***

Extension Highlights

Master Gardeners:

Seventeen Master Gardener interns finished their 14 week classroom training in April. They are now doing their forty hours of volunteer service in the community. Once they complete their hours they will become Master Gardeners. We will have a graduation ceremony in August at the Chamber Center.

New Applications:

Applications for the 2012 Master Gardener's course are now available at the Tipton County Public Library and at the Extension office at 111 West Washington

Avenue. The 14 week class will begin January 2012. The class will be offered on Tuesday evening from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Applications must be submitted by October 1, 2011. The \$100.00 fee is paid when students receive a notice of acceptance into the class.

Spring Expo:

Tipton County Master Gardener's had their fourth garden expo "Gear Up Your Landscape for Spring" which was a great success. The expo was held at Brighton Middle School gym on April 9, 2011. We had twenty five vendors and fif-

teen sponsors. More than 700 people came to the expo. We also had some great speakers: Rita Randolph; plant Nursery woman and Author spoke on "Unique Plants for Containers in Small Gardens"; Felder Rushing, Retired Horticulture Extension Agent, University of Mississippi and Author spoke on "The Gestalt Gardener". Tom Mashour, Certified Master Gardener from Shelby County, spoke on "Growing Vegetable Transplants". The Tipton County Master Gardeners would like to thank every

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June Gardening Tips

Early this month

- Prune the late flowering azaleas after they have finished. Most trees and evergreen shrubs can be cut for shaping now.
- Early in the month, finish any planting of ornamentals, but remember plants planted during this month will need to be watered well, and monitored closely during the summer to become established.
- It is not too late to start or overseed a warm season lawn.
- Plant caladiums now. They grow quickly when the weather is hot.
- Plant Zinnia, and sunflower seeds outdoors.
- Plant tomatoes, peppers, snap beans, sweet corn, squash, and watermelons into prepared ground, also plant okra and eggplant now.

(Continued on page 5)

Plant of the Month — Smoke Tree or Bush



June Plant of the Month: Smoke tree or Smoke bush. Submitted by Carol Reese. Truthfully, woody plants reported to have purple foliage are rarely purple. The colors are probably better described as wine, maroon, aubergine, or burgundy. Still, the word purple is just fun. It's one of those words that sounds weirder and weirder the more you say it. The beauty and effect of purple foliage is influenced by climate, so plants that look wonderful in New England or the northwest may look tired and ugly in our southern heat. I found that to be true of the weigela 'Wine and Roses'. I'd seen it looking glorious in northern gardens, but in our hot summer, it turned the color of tired coffee. Unfortunately the same is true of most forms of purple smoketree, also called smokebush (*Cotinus coggygria*). The foliage is glorious for the first few weeks of summer, but soon it fades and looks tortured by the sun. This is not true of a cultivar named 'Grace'. 'Grace' is the result of a cross between *Cotinus coggygria* which originates from Eurasia, and *Cotinus obovatus*, which a small tree native to the southeastern United States. This plants does

not have the rich dark purple of it's Eurasian parent, but rather is a lovely deep mauve that flashes reddish leaf undersides. It does have large misty blooms, the feature that appears to be purple "smoke" and which gives the plant its common name. 'Grace' also differs in that she wants to be more like her tree parent in stature. I laughed when I saw the tag on some lately that read that the plant would reach twelve feet. I've seen it grow ten feet in a single season! I don't see anything wrong with that. I think a purple tree with smokey purple flowers is a very cool addition to the landscape. Some of my gardening friends are determined to manage it as a shrub, and cut it back severely each year, which makes it throw out even more gorgeous foliage, but I like to let it go. If for no other reason, I am eager to evaluate its potential as an ornamental tree, large and fast growing enough to offer quick shade. 'Grace' is very easy to grow, requiring nothing more than a sunny site and well drained soils. Carol Reese the University of Tennessee Extension Ornamental Horticulture Specialist for the Western District. Her office is located in the West Tennessee AgResearch and Education Center in Jackson. The UT Gardens located in Knoxville and Jackson are part of the UT Institute of Agriculture and their mission is to foster appreciation, education, and stewardship of plants through garden displays, collections, educational programs, and research trials. The gardens are open during all seasons and free to the public. See <http://utgardens.tennessee.edu/> and <http://westtennessee.tennessee.edu/ornamentals/> for more information

Sanctioned Projects

TITLE	LOCATIONS	TIME	DATE	PROJECT MANAGER	CONTACT INFO
Covington	Various Locations			Sherl Rose	earthguardian56@aol.com
Museum	TC Museum			Sherl Rose Lynda Carter	earthguardian56@aol.com bigorange63@aol.com
Ext Office Assistant	UT Ext Office			Booker T Leigh	bleigh1@utk.edu

Master Gardener June Birthdays.

Lisa Turner June 1st

Nancy Jones June 19th



Fertilize your warm season lawn grasses with a complete fertilizer that contains a slow release nitrogen'

- Watch for broadleaf weeds in your lawn, and treat with a post emergent broad leaf herbicide if needed.

Middle of the month

- Slugs are active on warm summer nights in well watered gardens. Watch for these nocturnal gastropods, and bait for them with non-toxic iron phosphate. Don't use products containing metaldehyde baits if pets will be around. A dish of beer, if monitored daily, will work.
- Now is a good time to divide and replant bearded Iris. Cut back foliage to 6 inch fans before replanting.
- Prune climbing roses to control growth after they have finished flowering.

Anytime this month

- If you have noxious grass-like weeds in your lawn apply a post emergent herbicide containing MSMA for the control.
- Plant warm season annuals and bedding plants.
- Most ornamental plants can be fertilized now. I like slow-release products or products with organic nitrogen.
- Mulch your garden with 1 to 2 inches of organic material to thwart weeds and prepare for the dry summer. It is best to weed first, and then apply fertilizer or lime if needed before mulching.
- Fescue lawns grow very slowly in the heat. Mow fescue lawns higher starting this month, 3" high is a good rule of thumb. Be sure to give adequate water.
- Start woody plants from softwood cuttings.
Don't forget to water during dry spells. At least 1 inch per week is a good rule of thumb.

I find the love of gardening grows upon me more and more as I grow older. *Maria Edgeworth*

You're only here for a short visit. Don't hurry, don't worry, and stop to smell the flowers along the way. *Walter Hagen*

In my garden, care stops at the gate and gazes at me wistfully through the bars. *Alexander Smith*

Gardening is the best therapy in the world. *C.Z. Guest*

Garden Funnies and puzzles

Bedside Manner

A man had been slipping in and out of a comma for several months. His wife stayed by his bedside every single day. When he finally regained consciousness, he motioned for her to come nearer. He said "You have been with me all through the bad times. When I got the sack, you were there to support me.

When my business failed, you were there. When I got shot, you were by my side. When we lost the house, you gave me support. When my health started failing, you were still by my side."

"I know, dear . What is it?" she asked gently.

"I think you bring me bad luck," he replied.

You Might be a Redneck Gardener If:

You mow your lawn and find a wheelbarrow.

A half moon reminds you of your fat husband pulling weeds.

You think a chain saw is a musical instrument.

You move your refrigerator and the grass underneath it is yellow.

Kudzu covers your arbor.

You don't water your front yard rather than mow it.

You know how many bags of fertilizer your car can hold.

You've ever cleaned your house with a leaf blower.

You empty the trash when you have enough to fill up the pickup.

You can amuse yourself for more than an hour with a hose.

You've been cited for reckless driving on a riding lawn mower.

You move your weed-eater to take a bath.

- Culled and Revised by Mike Garofalo

Heirloom Tomato and Goat Cheese Tart



Rated : Not yet rated

[Comment](#)

8 servings Cool: 1 hour

Bake: 15 minutes

Stand: 1 hour

Prep: 20 minutes

[View Nutrition Facts](#)

Ingredients

- 1 17.3-ounce package frozen puff pastry (2 sheets)
- 1 egg yolk
- 1 teaspoon water
- 1 cup finely shredded or grated Asiago or Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese
- 2 4- to 4.5-ounce tubes goat cheese, softened
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tablespoon snipped fresh lemon thyme or thyme or 1 teaspoon dried thyme, crushed
- 2 pounds assorted heirloom tomatoes or tomatoes, cut into 1/4-inch-thick slices
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1/4 cup snipped fresh basil or flat-leaf parsley
- Coarse salt (optional)

Directions

1. Thaw the pastry sheets at room temperature for 1 hour.
2. For tart shells, in a small bowl, mix egg yolk with water. Set aside. Unfold the pastry sheets on a lightly floured surface. Roll gently to flatten creases (you should have a 10-inch square). Cut 1/2-inch strips from all 4 sides of each pastry sheet. Brush the edges of the pastry sheets with the egg mixture. Place the cut strips on top and along edges of the pastry sheets, gently pressing in place to form a raised edge; trim ends. Place pastries on 2 parchment paper-lined baking sheets. Brush pastries with egg mixture. Prick pastry with a fork. Sprinkle with Asiago cheese. Bake, 1 sheet at a time, in a 425 degree F oven for 15 to 20 minutes or until puffed and golden brown. Cool on baking sheets on wire racks.
3. In a small bowl stir together goat cheese, garlic, and the thyme. Spread over bottom of tart shells.
4. Arrange tomato slices on top of the goat cheese mixture, overlapping slightly. Drizzle with 2 tablespoons olive oil. Sprinkle with basil and coarse salt, if you like. Slide onto cutting board or serving platter, cut each tart into serving-size pieces. Makes 8 servings.

Make-Ahead Directions: Tart shells may also be baked up to 4 hours ahead; cover and store at room temperature.

Getting to Know our Master Gardeners



Name: Phyllis Stephens

Birth Place: I was born and raised in Memphis and moved to Munford 23 years ago

How did you get your start in gardening? My grandmother loved growing flowers and had a beautiful yard. After my husband and I bought our first home, I went to her to learn everything I could about growing flowers. I wanted to recreate her yard at my home. She taught me a lot about growing flowers and garden design.

How long have you been gardening? 27 years

Favorite Gardening activity and why (i.e. flower gardening, vegetable gardening, butterflies, wildlife, etc.):

I love flower gardening but 2 years ago I started a square foot vegetable, fruit and herb garden. I read the book Square Foot Gardening by Mel Bartholomew. I love to keep things neat and in order so this system of growing fruits and vegetables really appealed to me. I have had so much fun planning what I will put in

each square. I knew nothing about growing vegetables so I have learned everything by trial and error. Last year my husband built a grow light system for me so I can start all of my seeds indoors.

What is your favorite plant? Rose

What is your favorite gardening tool? Dandelion puller - it will dig up anything

What is a plant/flower that you would recommend to other gardeners? Roses - They are certainly not carefree and they can be a lot of work at times but the rewards are hard to beat.

What is a plant/flower you would tell them to avoid? I haven't found one yet.

What is your best gardening tip? Install a drip irrigation system. The first year I had my Square Foot Garden I didn't have one and I had to drag the hose out quite often. Last year I put one in and it was wonderful. It was easy to install and mine is set on a timer so I don't have to think about watering. I am going to work on installing one in my rose garden this year.

How long have you been a Master Gardener? 1 year - 2010

How did you find out about the Master Gardener Program? I first found out about the Shelby County program about 15 years ago. I filled out the paperwork just about every year but never sent it in. When Tipton County started a MG program I again filled out the paperwork but when it came to mailing it, I chickened out. Finally, in 2009, I got the courage to send it in and I am so glad that I did. I am learning so much and I really enjoyed the classes.

Anything else you would like to share about yourself and gardening? I have been married for 28 years and have 2 daughters ages 25 and 21. I work 3 days a week as a bookkeeper for Munford Baptist Church. The other 2 work days you can find me working in my garden.

Mark Your Calendar

Memphis Botanic Gardens

Brown Bag Lunch and Learn

Jun 8, 2011

(12:00 PM)

Join Dr. Chris Cooper with the Shelby County Extension Office as he discusses landscaping in the sometimes difficult soil and climate of the Memphis area.

Bring your lunch or enjoy a box lunch from Fratelli's at the garden.

MBG members FREE/non-members \$5

Call 636-4100 for information.

No reservations required.

Memphis Potters Guild Annual Spring Show & Sale at Memphis Botanic Garden

Jun 3, 2011 - Jun 6, 2011

Times are:

Friday 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m.-6 p.m.

Sunday 11:00 a.m.-5 p.m.

Monday 9:00 a.m.-4 p.m.

Free admission.

thememphisottersguild.com

Orchids in the Windowsill

Jun 5, 2011

(2:00 PM - 4:00 PM)

This 6-hour series is designed to introduce the beginner to the wonder of orchids, their care, and steps to take to induce re-blooming. Adrian Giles, past president and long time member of the Memphis Orchid Society, has taught this class for a number of years.

For questions or to register by June 2 call 636-4128.

MBG members \$35/non-members \$40.

Additional Classes:

June 12, 2:00 PM-4:00 PM

June 19, 2:00 PM-4:00 PM

Brown Bag Lunch and Learn

Jun 8, 2011

(12:00 PM)

Join Dr. Chris Cooper with the Shelby County Extension Office as he discusses landscaping in the sometimes difficult soil and climate of the Memphis area.

Bring your lunch or enjoy a box lunch from Fratelli's at the garden.

MBG members FREE/non-members \$5

Call 636-4100 for information.

No reservations required

Great Gardens of the World-Yu Garden, Shanghai, China.

Jun 19, 2011

(4:00 PM - 5:00 PM)

Laura Edwards will present photographs and history of one of the oldest gardens in China. Yu Garden, established in 1559 as a private garden, dates to the Ming Dynasty.

Light refreshments provided, pre-registration is required.

MBG members \$5/ non-members \$7.

Call 636-4128 for more information or to register.

Butterfly Gardening for the Mid-South

Jun 28, 2011

(6:30 PM)

Bart Jones, local butterfly and native plant expert with the North American Butterfly Association and TN Native Plant Society, will combine his dual passions in a presentation on butterfly gardening for the Mid-South, discussing the types of plants and trees needed by both adult butterflies and caterpillars to thrive, as well as the basics of butterfly identification.

Part of the 4th Annual Naturalist's Guide to the Mid-South Summer Lecture Series, sponsored by the Wolf River Conservancy and Memphis Botanic Garden.

Free to WRC & MBG members/non-members \$4.

Call 452-6500 or 636-4116 for more information, or visit www.wolfriver.org.

American Hydrangea Society Garden Tour

Atlanta, GA

Saturday, June 11

Dixon Gardens

Munch and Learn

June 1 @ 12:00 PM

Summer Birds in your Yard

By Debbie Bruce co-owner of Wild Birds Unlimited

Mid South Hydrangea Society

Bloomin in June

June 4 @ 8 AM to 1 PM

Garden Tour, plant sale and presentation

\$10.00 for non-members

Harbor Town Secret Garden Tours

Mud Island

June 4 @ 10AM to 3PM

\$10 tickets available at Miss Cordelia's

Floral Arrangement Workshop

June 9 @ 10:30AM

\$30 for members \$40.00 for non-members

Memphis area Master Gardeners

None

Others

Tipton County Extension Office

Brown Bag Programs

June 7 @ 12:00 PM

Diseases on Vegetables

By Booker Leigh

June 21 @ 12:00 PM

Protecting your plants

By Charlotte Kelley

Carters Nursery at the Butterfly House 2846 Old Medina Rd. Jackson, TN. 38305

The 3rd. Annual Butterfly House & Workshop

Saturday, June 4th. 9am. till Noon.

The morning will begin with a Butterfly Garden Design class at 9am. We will walk you through some Butterfly Plant selections including Host Plants and Nectar Plants . We will talk Garden Design and we will discuss some of the things that will really help the Butterflies in your Garden Flourish!

At 10am. we will all move inside the Butterfly House for a Butterfly Release ! It's so Beautiful folks! We will release a few groups of different species of Butterflies and we will have several individual Butterflies that Kids and Adults will release. We will also have a Chrysalis Board with several different types of Butterflies ! You can actually see their Lifecycle in action.

GET HERE EARLY to get a good place in the Butterfly House ! AND, if you want to release a Butterfly or want your child to release a Butterfly , call asap to get your name on the list – NUMBERS ARE LIMITED!

one who helped make the expo a success.

HorticultureUpdate:

The Tipton County Extension Staff and the Master Gardeners will be offering free brown bag programs at the Tipton County Extension office at 111 West Washington Avenue from noon to 1:00 p.m. Here are the schedules for the Brown Bag Programs:

Date/Topic/Speaker

Tuesday, May 3, 2011 Growing Plants inContainers Jackie Walker Tipton County Master Gardener

Tuesday, May17, 2011 Sun Loving Plants Beverly Moranville Tipton County Master Gardener

Tuesday, May31, 2011 Getting Your Lawn Ready for Summer Booker T. Leigh Extension Director

Tuesday,June 7, 2011 Diseases on Vegetables Booker T. Leigh Extension Director

Tuesday,June 21, 2011 Protecting Your Plants from theSummer Heat Charlotte Kelley Tipton County MasterGardener

Horticulture TelephoneCalls:

January (79 calls)
February (75 calls)
March (107 calls)
April (72calls)

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